

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

END-USE MONITORING AND HUMAN RIGHTS IN COLOMBIA

HON. LEE H. HAMILTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 28, 1998

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Speaker, I call my colleagues' attention to the attached letters regarding human rights in Colombia. As is detailed in the letters, the Administration and U.S. Southern Command maintain strict end-use monitoring of U.S. provided security assistance and have taken some preliminary steps to develop an intrusive vetting procedure for participants in U.S.-provided military training. There is a long way to go before we can be sure that all U.S. assistance and U.S. training are used properly and for their stated purpose. In the meantime, however, the Administration and U.S. Southern Command are taking a series of positive steps.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE, UNITED
STATES SOUTHERN COMMAND, OFFICE OF THE COMMANDER IN CHIEF,
Miami, FL, August 24, 1998.

Hon. LEE H. HAMILTON,
*Rayburn House Office Building,
Washington, DC.*

DEAR CONGRESSMAN HAMILTON: Again, I want to express my appreciation for your continued interest in our region. In response to your 5 August 1998 letter, I will explain our individual selection and vetting procedure for U.S. sponsored training, comment on collective vetting procedures and provide my observation of the Colombian military's progress regarding human rights.

The five-step individual vetting procedure is intended to be helpful in scrutinizing nominees for human rights abuses, drug trafficking, corruption, criminal activities, and other behavior inconsistent with U.S. foreign policy goals. If an individual's reputable character cannot be validated they will not be selected for training regardless of the training location.

Step one begins when the U.S. Military Group/security assistance office announces course availability and requests the host government to submit nominees. Per established agreement, by submitting specific nominees, the host government verifies they have conducted an internal background investigation concluding the nominees are of reputable character. This completes step two. During step three, relevant U.S. Embassy agencies conduct respective background checks of the nominees. Fourth, the Military Group interviews each nominee for suitability and as a fifth step generates an invitation travel order for the approved nominee. Records are maintained for a minimum of 10 years.

As you know, we offer collective training and assistance for counternarcotics purposes to individuals and units in the Colombian security forces. However, the current unit vetting procedures and legal requirements for each type of collective training (to include Joint Combined Exchange Training) require further clarification and development. We are working diligently with the Military Group, the State Department and the Colombian Military to make the unit vetting pro-

cedures as standardized and specific as those already in existence for individuals. We believe it is vitally important to continue to train the Colombian military within the letter and spirit of applicable law to ensure that respect for individual human rights is a fundamental consideration of every soldier in uniform.

I am encouraged by the trends of Colombian military leaders regarding human rights. As General Tapias and his command assume their leadership roles, I confidently predict continued progress. As you know, five years ago the Colombian security forces were charged with over 60 percent of the human rights violations—today that figure is closer to seven percent. Some 150 human rights offices now provide effective training at all levels and commanders are involved. The Pastrana administration's early change in military leadership will potentially reinforce this favorable trend and provide us an opportunity to engage new leaders receptive to institutional reform.

Colombian military leaders recently requested assistance in refining a military justice system that comports fully with domestic and international law. We will soon dispatch a team of legal and human rights experts to discuss strategies for improving a Colombian military legal corps whose members will advise field commanders regarding compliance with law, emphasize individual human rights, expedite the fair administration of justice and help determine appropriate penalties for violators. Shifts in attitude precede policy changes. Our engagement of the Colombian military is changing their attitude and consequently their policies toward human rights.

Once again, I embrace your support as we continue to foster greater security in Colombia and further hemispheric stability.

Very Respectfully,

C.E. WILHELM,
*General, U.S. Marine Corps, Commander
in Chief, U.S. Southern Command.*

COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, August 5, 1998.

General C.E. Wilhelm,
*Commander in Chief, United States Southern
Command, Miami, FL.*

DEAR GENERAL WILHELM: I write in reply to your letter of July 15, 1998. Like your testimony before our Committee earlier this spring, your letter was responsive, straightforward and very helpful. I appreciated receiving it.

I would like to ask you to elaborate on the last paragraph of your July 15th letter. You wrote that U.S. SOUTHCOM has developed procedures to select and vet individuals in Colombia's security forces who receive U.S. training, that you provide collective training for units involved in counter-narcotics activities, and that you coordinate training with the Department of Defense and with the Department of State.

As you know, training programs in Colombia have come under considerable scrutiny. Recent reports on training programs do not mention the elaborate selection, vetting and coordination procedures to which you referred in your letter. I hope, therefore, that you will explain these procedures in greater detail:

1. What exactly are the procedures you have established to select individual students from the Colombian security forces for participation in U.S. training exercises? Do you vet such individuals for human rights abuse? What are the vetting procedures?

2. When you provide collective training to Colombian units, do you vet each individual member of that unit for records of gross violations of human rights?

3. Do these established procedures for selecting and vetting participants in training operations apply to missions in Colombia undertaken by the US Special Forces Command? Do the procedures apply also to Joint Combined Exchange Training (JCET)?

Lastly, I would also appreciate hearing your assessment of the respect for human rights among the Colombian security forces. Are you concerned, for example, about reports of ties between the Colombian Army and the irregular paramilitary forces that have committed human rights atrocities over the last several months? Do you have reason to believe that the Colombian military tolerates association between its soldiers and paramilitary units?

Thank you in advance for the consideration of this letter. I look forward to your response, which I intend to share with my colleagues in the Congressional Record.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

LEE H. HAMILTON,
Ranking Democratic Member.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE, UNITED
STATES SOUTHERN COMMAND, OFFICE OF THE COMMANDER IN CHIEF,
Miami, FL, July 15, 1998.

Hon. LEE H. HAMILTON,
*Rayburn House Office Building,
Washington, DC.*

DEAR CONGRESSMAN HAMILTON: During a recent meeting at the National Security Council, I was pleased to learn of your interest in Colombia and the implementation of the August 1997 end-use monitoring agreement. I agree that violence in Colombia is escalating and that we bear a responsibility to assist the Colombian government consistent with both the letter and spirit of our own laws. The United States Southern Command is living up to that responsibility.

We are convinced, just as you are, that our counternarcotics goals and objectives cannot be realized in Colombia unless the military actively supports the National Police and Justice officials. With support from their administration, the Colombian military must develop a strategic plan that will rebuild their security forces, eliminate paramilitary violence, support the peace initiatives of the new administration, promote economic development and engrain a genuine respect for human rights. Respect for human rights will occur with institutional change, commander involvement, military legal reform and non-government agency cooperation.

The August 1997 end-use monitoring agreement stipulates geographical restrictions on U.S. assistance to areas "characterized by the highest concentration of counternarcotics activity." An addendum to that agreement allows for redesignation of the areas over time; experience has taught us these criminals will take the path of least resistance. The intent of my comment to the

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

New York Times was to suggest that there are no safe havens—because narcotraffickers operate outside a designated area does not guarantee them impunity.

Finally, our training activities in Colombia are vetted. We have established procedures to select individual students, provide collective training for units and focus counternarcotic assistance where it is most needed. We coordinate training and assistance within the Department of Defense, with the Department of State for sensitive training and always with the approval of the Ambassador. I assure you that we comply with both the letter and spirit of the end-use monitoring agreement as we strive to train a professional Colombian military supportive of our counternarcotics goals and sensitive to human rights.

Very Respectfully,

C.E. WILHELM,
General, U.S. Marine Corps, Commander
in Chief, U.S. Southern Command.

COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL RE-
LATIONS, HOUSE OF REPRESENTA-
TIVES,

Washington, DC, June 11, 1998.

Hon. SAMUEL BERGER,
National Security Adviser, The White House,
Washington, DC.

DEAR SANDY: I write to you in regards to U.S. policy toward Colombia, and to seek your assurance about implementation of the end-use monitoring agreement that the U.S. reached with the Colombian Army in August 1997.

Violence in Colombia is escalating. There are some 25,000 murders each year in that country, a great many of them politically motivated. While many of those murders are perpetrated by irregular paramilitary organizations, it is increasingly clear that these paramilitary organizations maintain ties with at least some parts of the Colombian Army.

I commend the strong steps the Administration has taken in defense of human rights in Colombia, particularly given this growing alliance between the military and irregular paramilitary organizations. You were right, for example, to suspend the visa of the Inspector General of the Colombian military, an individual with ties to the paramilitary organizations. I am especially supportive of the agreement the Administration reached in August 1997 with the Colombian Army on end-use monitoring of U.S.-provided assistance. The agreement calls for units that use U.S.-provided assistance to be vetted for human rights abuse. It also goes a step further and restricts the area within which U.S. assistance can be utilized to the region of the country where drug cultivation and production takes place. These are two important conditions that help ensure that U.S. assistance is used properly and for its stated purpose.

I am, however, concerned about recent statements in the press from high ranking U.S. personnel regarding these important end-use monitoring requirements. In a recent New York Times article, for example, the Commander in Chief of U.S. Southern Command was quoted as saying, "In terms of geography, the use of resources, I'm personally not aware of any restrictions." I hope that this quotation is only a misunderstanding, and I look forward to your assurance that U.S. policy on end-use is being fully implemented.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of my letter. I look forward to hearing from you.

With best regards,
Sincerely,

LEE H. HAMILTON,
Ranking Democratic Member.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUTSTANDING ST. PAUL FAMILY

HON. BRUCE F. VENTO

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 28, 1998

Mr. VENTO. Mr. Speaker, I would like to submit for the record the following article from the Sunday, August 23, 1998 edition of the St. Paul Pioneer Press in recognition of the Crutchfield family of St. Paul, for their outstanding and tireless efforts in community service. My congratulations to the Crutchfields and their many admirable achievements.

This recognition is well deserved and is a small reward for the service that Dr. Charles Crutchfield and his wonderful wife, Pat Crutchfield, have performed. They have remained in a community of modest means, while actively involved in their church, educational and social life, attempting to help give back to their community their love and labor to make St. Paul a better place to extend hope and the opportunity to grow to succeed to make a difference. Through their example and sacrifice, they have walked the walk. The Crutchfields' reward has been the great success of their children and the extended family and community they have embraced and their payment our love, affection and heartfelt thanks.

Thanks to the Crutchfields of St. Paul. They make us proud—very proud.

[From the St. Paul Pioneer Press, Aug. 23, 1998]

AN OUTSTANDING FAMILY

(By Pat Burson)

In St. Paul, the Crutchfield name is synonymous with family, education, community and success.

Those attributes made the family of Dr. Charles E. Crutchfield, a nationally recognized obstetrician and gynecologist, and his wife of 22 years, Pat, a tireless community fund-raiser and volunteer, a natural choice to receive the 1998 Family of the Year award from the St. Paul Urban League, said president Willie Mae Wilson.

"It's an outstanding family," she said.

Pat Crutchfield said she was shocked and humbled to learn that her family had been selected.

"I was embarrassed," she added. "I never look at what we do, getting recognized for it. You just do it. I just feel like I'm doing what I'm supposed to do. Not anything special."

They're just being modest, said neighbor Dick Mangram, who has known the Crutchfields for about 30 years.

Mangram, executive director of Hallie Q. Brown/Martin Luther King Community Center, also served on the St. Paul Urban League's board with Pat Crutchfield from 1982 to 1987.

"They're not the kind of people that will go around and toot their own horn," he said. "They're just good people. What you see is what you get. They're really proud to be right here in the city."

Charles Crutchfield was the first private black obstetrician/gynecologist in Minnesota. He entered private practice with his mentor, Dr. Joseph Goldsmith, in 1969. In addition to having a main office in the Fort Road Medical Center on West Seventh Street near downtown St. Paul, he and his partner, Dr. Rainer Rocheleau, also have offices in Apple Valley, Inver Grove Heights and White Bear Lake. Crutchfield has performed more than 3,000 operations and delivered almost 6,000 babies.

One of those deliveries earned him national media attention in December 1982, after he walked three miles in a blizzard to deliver a baby by emergency Caesarean section.

Crutchfield was honored in January by the Washington-based National Medical Association for his numerous contributions to the organization. He also has served as president of the Minnesota Association of Black Physicians.

In addition to the other medical and community organizations he is involved with, Crutchfield also is a physician and safety official for amateur boxing in Minnesota. He's an avid softball player and has even had his own team that his wife calls the "Crutchbangers."

A Chicago native, Pat Wilson Crutchfield moved with her family to the Twin Cities at age 4. Community service is part of the wellknown family's legacy. Her youngest brother, Steve Wilson, is president of Rondo Ave. Inc., which puts on the annual Rondo Days Parade. She had a Catholic education, attending St. Peter Claver Elementary School, Archbishop Murray High School and the College of St. Catherine.

Through United Hospital's "First Steps" program, Pat Crutchfield has helped many teen mothers cope with the challenges and the uncertainties they face. She wrote a popular weekly social column, "Pat's Tidbits," for the St. Paul Recorder and the Minneapolis Spokesman from 1990 to 1996. The column chronicled the births, deaths, reunions, club events, parties and other activities of Twin Cities African-Americans.

The couple met in June 1974 at Model Cities Health Center, a community clinic at 430 N. Dale St., where both were volunteers. She was 29 and single, a business services instructor and communications specialist at Northwestern Bell Telephone Co., now US West. He was six years her senior, separated and the father of three young sons. They were married Jan. 30, 1976.

On their honeymoon, the couple sketched a design of their dream home. The result is the three-story house on Aurora Avenue in St. Paul's Summit-University neighborhood, where they still live.

Their longevity in the area endears them to many who know them, including Steve Wilson.

"A lot of doctors, when they make it, the first thing they do is move to the suburbs," he said. "People ask (Crutchfield), 'Why do you stay?' And his answer has always been, 'Why would I leave?'"

The front yard is decorated with Pat Crutchfield's flower beds of canna lilies, peonies, pansies, roses and day lilies. Out back is Charles Crutchfield's pride and joy: his vegetable garden, with its assortment of greens, from collard to ruffled kale. He also has an orchard of apple, cherry, plum, pear and peach trees, wild strawberries and vines bearing seedless grapes.

Things haven't always been rosy. In 1983, a jury found Charles Crutchfield was not at fault for the cerebral palsy of a child he delivered. The girls' parents had brought a civil lawsuit against Crutchfield for malpractice.

In 1984, Crutchfield was accused of rape in a civil lawsuit brought by Renee Reed, a woman he treated at a free clinic years before. She was seeking monetary damages for a 1982 sexual encounter the doctor said was consensual, part of a three-year affair. He, in turn, sued Reed's father and her spiritual adviser, claiming the men were attempting to extort money from him with the rape allegation. Reed was awarded \$21,500 by the judge in the case. Her father won \$5,000 when the extortion claim was denied.

Charles Crutchfield said his attorney told him the only reason he had to pay anything

was because the judge felt he should at least cover part of the court costs and because he had admitted having the affair.

"This was strictly civil and had no criminal implications," Crutchfield added. "I was hurt, but my wife and I moved on with our lives, our family and our service to the community."

Added Pat Crutchfield: "It was one of our storms that we weathered, and it did bring us closer. It strengthened our marriage, our relationship."

Now they are facing a serious challenge involving the health of the family matriarch. Pat Crutchfield was diagnosed in 1992 with scleroderma, a fairly rare disease affecting the blood vessels and connective tissue. She has changed her hairstyle and wears long-sleeved blouses to cover areas where her skin has become hardened, a symptom of the disease.

The condition dramatically altered her role as family caretaker.

"I've never had a health problem. I've always been the doer for my family," she explained. "The biggest thing is that my family has had to care for me."

"They've had to take more responsibility, which has probably been good. It has changed us around as far as commitments that we make. We've had a couple of trips that we've had to cancel, or I've just stayed home. I just wasn't able."

"It beats me down," she conceded, though she refuses to allow it overtake her. "I stay down for a while, and then I jump up and keep stepping."

The Crutchfields say her illness has forced family members to rethink and reorder some of their priorities.

"The disease has made us appreciate what is important and what is not important," Charles Crutchfield said. "And all I do is support her and tell her she's the best."

And its effect on the family?

"It disrupted the family," he conceded. "It cracked it. It didn't break it."

Those who know Pat Crutchfield say the disease has left its mark on her body but cannot quench her spirit. One of them is childhood friend Dee Dee Ray. The women have known one another since grade school.

"Pat has such faith, and she always looks on the bright side," Ray said. "She's a very religious person. I've seen her make many, many novenas.... She doesn't give up hope. She just keeps going."

Even with their busy schedules and numerous commitments, the Crutchfields still have time for each other, whether it's visiting, talking on the phone or during harvesting, canning, preserving and freezing the home-grown bounty from their vegetable gardens and orchards.

Sunday dinners, birthdays and holidays are special times in their home, as is fight night, when about 40 to 50 of their closest friends come over to watch boxing and eat Charles Crutchfield's famous chili.

He learned about growing food while growing up in Jasper, Ala., a small, segregated coal-mining town. His father was a barber whose business was the oldest owned by an African-American in that town. Wanting their son to have a chance to fulfill his dream of becoming a doctor, his parents sent him to live with an aunt in Minneapolis in 1955. He is a graduate of North High School and the University of Minnesota School of Medicine.

The Crutchfields have instilled their value of education in their children. Since their children were small, they have always told them to "work hard, get good grades and always do your best."

It appears to have sunk in. Crutchfield's three sons with former wife, Dr. Susan Crutchfield-Mitsch, a family physician, are

all in either the legal or medical profession. Charles III, 37, is a dermatologist, Carleton, 33 is an attorney and Chris, 28, also is an attorney and a staff assistant to state Rep. Andy Dawkins of St. Paul. Charles and Pat Crutchfield's daughter Raushana, 21, is a junior and psychology major at Virginia Union University in Richmond, Va., and son Rashad, 18, will be a senior at Concordia Academy in Roseville.

Rashad said he knows he's part of a very special family.

When asked if he'll be the next Crutchfield doctor or lawyer, he smiled. No, he said. Right now, he's leaning toward attending a college that specializes in film, theater arts or graphic design.

"I'm not that much for blood and guts, except in slasher films," he said.

"Crutchfield." I do see power in that name," he said proudly. "We're an African-American family that's just trying to find a way through life, trying to succeed."

TAX DEDUCTIONS FOR HEALTH INSURANCE DON'T HELP THE UNINSURED—WE NEED TAX CREDITS

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 28, 1998

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, in the \$80 billion tax bill the House voted last week, the Republicans proposed to provide immediate, 100% deductibility for the self-employed (but not their workers!) to purchase health insurance. The issue is now before the Senate.

Democrats have proposed this type of tax relief before, but have tried to ensure it includes both the boss and the worker. It would be a little step toward helping people meet the costs of health insurance—but it would do almost zilch to reduce the number of America's 43 million uninsured.

Most uninsured either don't file tax returns, are in the zero tax bracket or, at most, the 15% bracket. We should admit that deductions will do little or nothing to make affordable individual health insurance policies bought at retail.

Today, the law allows a 45% deduction—scheduled to increase to 100% by 2007—for the self-employed (but not their workers) who buy health insurance. An immediate deduction for the purchase of insurance will help folks in the 36% and 39.6% bracket and make insurance more affordable for them—but these are taxpayers with incomes above \$121,300 (\$147,700 if a family) who almost certainly already have health insurance.

In June, the U.S. General Accounting Office issued a report showing how useless tax deductions are for helping the overwhelming number of uninsured.

First, the GAO pointed out that a tax deduction is good only if you itemize your deductions. But in 1995, only 29% of all tax filers itemized. Lower income people, of course, are less likely to itemize. Only 5% of those with adjusted gross incomes of less than \$20,000 itemized that year.

Second, deductions are useful only if you pay taxes. Yet of the uninsured, about 13 million—more than the population of Virginia, Maryland and Delaware combined—were in the zero tax bracket and six million others

didn't even have to file a return. A deduction is totally meaningless for them.

Third, deductions don't do much for the lower income—and it doesn't take a Sherlock Holmes to figure out that the lower income are the people who are uninsured. Twenty-plus million uninsured were in the 15% bracket and would be helped if they itemized—but not much. This tax bracket is for those individuals with taxable incomes of \$24,000 or less, or if married and filing a joint return, \$40,100 or less. As the GAO points out, "The value to a single tax filer in the 15-percent bracket who had paid \$2,100 in premiums for single coverage would have been about \$315 while the value to an individual in the highest bracket could have been \$832 for this same premium amount. For a \$5,664 premium for a family of four, the value to a family in the 15-percent bracket could have been about \$850 compared to \$2,243 for a family in the highest tax bracket."

Think of it: a family with taxable income below \$40,100 is going to spend \$4,832 out-of-pocket for health insurance, because they got a tax deduction of \$850? I sincerely doubt it. The Congressional Joint Committee on Taxation has estimated that the benefits of a similar Senate bill would go 95% to the already insured; only 5% would go to benefit people previously uninsured.

Tax deductions will make little difference for those in need, but will provide additional savings for the already-insured upper income.

What we really need are tax credits—including refundable credits—that would be equal for all individuals and families to buy into reasonably priced, "wholesale" health insurance plans—plans that would be group health plans, such as Medicare or the Federal Employee Health plans.

Because credits would actually do something to help the 43 million uninsured, they will be expensive. We will need to talk about tobacco taxes and other revenue sources to pay for them. It will be tough. But if America want to really do something about the uninsured, let's be honest: Deductions won't do it. Credits will.

RECIPROCAL TRADE AGREEMENT AUTHORITIES ACT OF 1997

SPEECH OF

HON. LOUIS STOKES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 25, 1998

Mr. STOKES. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong opposition to H.R. 2621, the Reciprocal Trade Agreement Authorities Act, more commonly known as "Fast Track." The measure was pulled last year when it appeared that it would be defeated. Fast Track was a bad bill for hard-working families then, and it is a bad bill for them now.

The "Fast Track" debate is not simply a matter of whether we want to expand trade, more importantly, the question regarding free trade agreements is "how we go about pursuing negotiations and effectively addressing the subsequent effects of these pacts."

If the Congress delegates its negotiating authority to the President through Fast Track, this action would remove directly-elected Representatives from having any meaningful input

into the negotiations of an agreement. This action could potentially have a profound impact, and negative implications on the economic future of all Americans, and all countries involved. What we need is "fair trade."

Mr. Speaker, we were sent here to represent the people of our respective districts—and—to delegate our authority, accountability, and responsibility for trade agreements would be blatantly negligent. The cost of this degree of irresponsibility is too great for companies and hard-working families to bear. The long-term cost is too high, the burden is too great, and the provisions are too unfair. Our country has paid too high a price already for free trade—what we need is "fair trade."

I have remained concerned for some time about the nature of the international trade agreements that our Government negotiates. They have not been fair to, nor appropriate for the American people.

It is for these reasons that I, in fact, opposed both the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) and the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT). The lack of attention to fundamental labor rights, and environmental protections is blatantly irresponsible.

We should be passing trade measures that effectively strengthen the U.S. economy, and well-being of the American people, not those that jeopardize it. There are serious economic, social, environmental and political consequences that must be addressed in any trade agreement. Individual workers' rights, decent standards of living, and environmentally safe working and living conditions are fundamental to any workable trade agreement.

Mr. Speaker, the continuing pattern of de-emphasizing the importance of internationally recognized labor rights in free trade treaties is dooming American workers to constant, unending pressure—to lower wages and benefits—under the guise of improving our Nation's economic competitiveness internationally.

Ignoring environmental protections in trade agreements further leads to a diminished standard of living for generations to come.

Mr. Speaker, "Fast Track" is not a right, and the American people must not be held hostage to this "unfair trade agreement process." I strongly urge my colleagues to join me in voting no to "Fast Track." Vote "no" to H.R. 2621.

PROTECT SOCIAL SECURITY ACCOUNT

SPEECH OF

HON. JIM KOLBE

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 25, 1998

Mr. KOLBE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 4578, the Republican plan to preserve 90 percent of the budget surplus for Social Security reform.

In supporting this bill, Republicans demonstrate our commitment to the 44 million people currently receiving Social Security benefits and the 82 million beneficiaries who will retire and begin collecting Social Security three decades from now. This bill sets aside \$1.4 trillion dollars for Social Security—funds that will be used to strengthen a system that keeps mil-

lions of seniors out of poverty. Students of history will note this is \$1.4 trillion dollars more than the Democrats set aside during their 40-year control of this chamber.

In supporting this bill, Republicans demonstrate that we are pro-active problem-solvers. Although the Social Security Trust Fund currently is running a surplus, we know that changing demographics—including the retirement of baby boomers like me—will threaten the long-term viability of the program. By setting aside \$1.4 trillion, we guarantee that Congress will have the resources needed to implement a reform plan and preserve Social Security in perpetuity.

As Chairman ARCHER said earlier today, Republicans are committed to preserving Social Security and giving middle Americans much needed tax relief. Despite what the Democrats believe, these two are not mutually exclusive activities. The health of today's economy and a balanced budget generated from the prudent fiscal policies of GOP leadership give us the opportunity to do both.

Mr. Speaker, I take exception with the rhetoric coming from the other side of the aisle on this topic. The Democrats accuse Republicans of raiding the Trust Fund, yet these same members sat in a Ways and Means Committee hearing last week and heard Judy Chesser, Deputy Commissioner of the Social Security Administration say that wouldn't happen with a tax cut. When Ms. Chesser was asked whether this bill would affect the OASDI Trust Fund, she replied simply and clearly, "No."

The smear campaign Democrats are waging against this bill is irresponsible and absolutely false. America is fed up with lying; to set the record straight: This bill "steals" nothing—it "saves" money for Social Security. This bill "robs" from no one, it "gives" \$1.4 trillion to our senior citizens.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JIM SAXTON

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 28, 1998

Mr. SAXTON. Mr. Speaker, due to the wedding of my son in Pennsylvania, I was unable to make rollcall votes 466, 467, 468, and 469. Had I been present I would have voted "aye" on rollcall vote 466, "yea" on rollcall vote 467, "no" on rollcall vote 468, and "aye" on rollcall vote 469.

TAXPAYER RELIEF ACT OF 1998

SPEECH OF

HON. LOUIS STOKES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, September 26, 1998

Mr. STOKES. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong opposition to the Taxpayer Relief Act of 1998, H.R. 4579, and in support of the Democratic substitute—which contains all of the tax cuts included in H.R. 4579. The Democratic substitute is a sound and responsible alternative as the tax cuts take effect only after Congress has enacted legislation to ensure the long-term solvency of Social Security.

At first glance, H.R. 4579 appears to be okay. In fact, it includes provisions that: Increase the standard deduction for married couples; provide the self-employed with a deduction for health insurance costs; and allow families, which take the \$500 per child tax credit and the Hope Scholarship Credit, to apply such Credits against the alternative minimum tax. Each of these tax provisions are borrowed ideas that were originally proposed and sponsored by Democratic Members of Congress.

Mr. Speaker, the fact of the matter is that the Republican leadership wants to spend money that it does not have, and that's just irresponsible. This tax bill waives the Budget Act, which requires that all tax cuts be offset and paid for in full.

H.R. 4579 takes \$177 billion away from Social Security over the next ten years, and diverts it to tax cuts. The projected surplus is based solely on the Social Security Trust Fund. In fact, if it was not for the Social Security Trust Fund, we would not even show a budget surplus. The budget surplus is comprised of investments that American workers have made in Social Security. These funds have already been committed to the trust fund.

This is the wrong pot of money to tap. It will be several more years before the non-Social Security portion of the budget is in surplus. By raiding the trust fund, H.R. 4579 places the long-term solvency of Social Security in danger. This measure depletes critical resources necessary to ensure that we can provide retirement benefits to future generations of Social Security recipients.

Mr. Speaker, we must save Social Security first. With the Nation enjoying a record budget surplus, we promised the American people—that if they would help us to control spending, and help us to balance the budget—and that if we could yield a budget surplus—we would use those funds to protect Social Security. To act otherwise, would be to renege on that critical promise.

While I have always supported responsible tax cuts that are paid for out of the budget, I reject fiscally irresponsible and short-sighted efforts such as this. The American people do not want us to jeopardize their Social Security benefits. We must preserve the surplus for Social Security, strengthen the system and ensure that all Americans will be able to enjoy the retirement income security that is provided by Social Security well into the next century.

It is for these reasons that I urge my colleagues to join me in opposing H.R. 4579 and in supporting the Democratic substitute.

A TRIBUTE TO THOMAS M. BARRY

HON. WILLIAM (BILL) CLAY

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 28, 1998

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in tribute to an outstanding American and citizen from my home State of Missouri, Mr. Thomas M. Barry, on the occasion of his appointment as President of SBC International's Telkom South Africa operations.

Tom Barry represents the finest attributes of corporate service—his is a true American success story. For over 30 years he progressed

through a number of assignments in Southwestern Bell's Missouri division before his appointment as assistant vice-president for external affairs in 1985. The following year Tom was named vice-president for public affairs for the company's five-State operating area. In 1990, he became the president and CEO of Metromedia Paging Services, then an SBC Communications, Inc. subsidiary. He became senior vice president for strategic planning for SBC in 1991 and the following year Tom Barry was designated senior vice president for Federal relations.

In all of his business before Congress and with my office, I have known Tom to be highly qualified to address the complex issues emerging in the telecommunications field. When Congress debated the Telecommunications Act of 1996, Tom demonstrated a unique understanding of the importance of balancing competing concerns, from his company's interest in competitive equities in the telecommunications industry to the importance of preserving universal telephone service and the need for "e-rate" discounts and telecommunications services for schools and libraries and rural health care centers.

I was pleased to learn that Tom will now turn his talents to addressing the telecommunications needs of the people of South Africa. I have been informed that the telephone penetration level in South Africa is only 10 percent among historically disadvantaged households, a group that represents 87 percent of the population.

SBC's Telkom South Africa operations, in conjunction with their partners, have promised to implement an aggressive plan to modernize the existing communications network and expand telecommunications services throughout the country for the benefit of all citizens. Tom Barry's next mission is to bring telecommunications services to more than 20,000 priority customers—including hospitals, schools, and community centers—throughout South Africa.

I am happy to join Tom's many friends and colleagues in congratulating him on a job well done in Washington and wishing him every continued success in his new undertaking as President of SBC International's Telkom South Africa office.

IN HONOR OF THE 125TH ANNIVERSARY OF ST. STANISLAUS CHURCH

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 28, 1998

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in the midst of a year long celebration, to honor Saint Stanislaus Church on its 125th anniversary.

Located in Cleveland, Ohio's Historic Slavic Village, St. Stanislaus Church, a Victorian Gothic structure, originated to serve the Polish immigrants who worked in the steel mills in the 1870's. In 1877, under the leadership of Father F.A. Marshall, the rapidly growing community assumed the name of St. Stanislaus, a saint of the 11th century who was cherished by the Poles because of his valor to stand up to a corrupt king. In 1883, Father Anton Kolaszewski was initiated as the new pastor of St. Stanislaus church. As the congregation

grew, so did the need for a larger church. In 1886 developments began and, six years later, a church that was built by the hands of its community was dedicated. Upon its completion, St. Stanislaus was considered the second-largest Gothic church in the United States.

Throughout the 1920's, 30's, and 40's the St. Stanislaus Parish, through the leadership of Fr. Protase Kuberek and Sir Sigismund Masalski, was known for its talented marching band and professional dramatic presentations in the Polish language. These social events provided by the church kept the city in harmony and the parish gratified of its heritage and religion. On September 19, 1969, a historic moment in St. Stanislaus chronicle occurred. The Archbishop of Krakow, Poland, Karol Cardinal Wojtyla, presently Pope John Paul II, celebrated mass at the church in appreciation of the assistance the Polish Americans of Cleveland gave to Poland.

Today, under the leadership of Father William Gulas and through the dedication of its parishioners and help throughout the community, Saint Stanislaus Church is continuing to undergo a massive restoration and improvement project. The walls, columns and ceilings will be repainted to reveal original artwork and colors, scrolling and trimming. In addition, the floors, electrical systems, sound and heating systems and water-damaged plaster will all be repaired. Already hailed as the most extensive and complete restoration of any church in the United States, this 107 year old building will finally reveal its original beauty and elegance that once shined nearly 100 years ago.

My fellow colleagues, please join me in celebrating the 125th anniversary of Saint Stanislaus Church, a parish that has warmed the hearts it has touched and enhanced those who have witnessed its significance.

TRIBUTE TO NICK CANGIOLOSI

HON. STEVE R. ROTHMAN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 28, 1998

Mr. ROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Nick Cangiolosi of Garfield, New Jersey, a man who embodies the American dream.

Having arrived in America at the age of fifteen from Palermo, Italy, Nick came to this country with nothing but hope in his heart and a determination to succeed. Like many Italian immigrants coming to America in the 20th century, Nick was a success story waiting to happen. With a remarkable work ethic, soon after his arrival in America, Nick gained the experience and resources to start a business with his brothers. To this day, the firm Nick began, Vinyl Building Products, enjoys a high degree of success.

Parallel with Nick's commercial success, he has established a track-record as model citizen. In the vibrant Italian-American community in New Jersey, Nick's history of volunteerism is legendary. He is also well-known throughout the entire state of New Jersey for his outstanding volunteerism and philanthropic efforts in support of a number of worthwhile causes and institutions. I know that among his many efforts, Nick is deeply involved as a member of the Board of Governors of the Hackensack

University Medical Center, an outstanding hospital that serves the needs of thousands of New Jersey residents. Nick is also a distinguished member of the Steering Committee for Felician College in Lodi, New Jersey and a dedicated member of the St. Ciro Society.

Mr. Speaker, given all that Nick Cangiolosi has accomplished in his life, it comes as no surprise that he is to be honored on October 2, 1998, by the Bergen County Chapter of Boys' Towns of Italy. At this event, the Right Reverend Monsignor J. Patrick Carroll-Abbing, who is the founder of Boys' Town, will present Nick with his organization's prestigious Humanitarian Award. This honor rightly serve to recognizes Nick's selfless efforts on behalf of needy people throughout the world.

I would like to join Boys' Towns saluting Nick and the goodness and kindness he represents. The world is a better place because of the efforts of to Boy's Towns chapters around the world and the work of individuals like Nick Cangiolosi. He is, simply put, an inspiration to the people of the Ninth Congressional District in New Jersey and to our Nation.

NUCLEAR THREATS

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 28, 1998

Mr. BOB SCHAFFER of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I recently received correspondence from Ms. Jennie B. Smith, of Ft. Collins, CO, in response to an article by Mr. Joseph C. Anselmo ("Defector Details Plan to Plant Nukes in U.S.") in Aviation Week & Space Technology on August 17, 1998. The referenced article details testimony by a former Russian intelligence agent concerning plans by the Soviet military to smuggle portable nuclear devices into the U.S. for use in the event of an all-out nuclear war. I hereby submit Ms. Smith's comments for the RECORD.

While we at Citizens for a Strong America (CFA) cannot further substantiate or dispute the claims made by the high ranking Russian defector who spoke before the House panel, we would urge Congress to not minimize the possible truth in his claims. We agree with his warning that Russia "remains a serious threat to U.S. national security because of its proliferation of weapons for profit to nations such as Iran and Libya." However, we add that the breakup of the Soviet Union creates insecurity with their existing ICBMS in the hands of Russian states, unrest and near collapse of the Russian government, not to mention that Start II treaties are yet to be signed. Arms control has never deterred proliferation of weapons of mass destruction. Neither is it prudent on our part to ignore Alexander Lebed's own concerns of "scores" of unaccounted for Russian nuclear suitcases as merely an accounting system flaw, as Thomas Cochran suggests. While he reports that even the U.S. has had accounting problems with its own nuclear weapons, we would place more confidence in our accounting measures than Russia's. There are far too numerous accounts of the loose and dangerous lack of control within Russian military of their nuclear weapons and equipment. Clearly not an apple-to-apple comparison, and worrisome for the type of naiveté that keeps us undefended.

As a peaceful nation, we as Americans struggle with the possibility of the unthinkable, however, the threat of terrorism on our

soil is a "clear and present danger". The primary mission of CSFA has been the deployment of a ballistic missile defense program for the U.S. and its allies as soon as possible. We believe a nuclear explosion on a large scale would be far more devastating and is a real and credible threat. Common sense, however, dictates that the United States government must counter both threats, a ballistic missile attack and "suitcase terrorism". At the current level of nuclear, biological, and chemical weapon proliferation among countries not bound by a policy of deterrence, we cannot afford to wait on either.

We, therefore, urge Congress to implement a dual-prong strategy to address terrorist threats, whether from ICBMs or suitcase weapons from any source: Deploy ballistic missile defense as soon as technologically possible; Increase funding for the development of nuclear, biological, and chemical weapon detection systems (Wide Area Tracking System); Increase the security of our borders from smugglers of weapons of mass destruction who could use similar modes as drug smugglers, e.g. cars, speedboats, small planes and hidden runways; and, Increase the security in our cities to reduce the threat of terrorist incidences from occurring, whether in planes, trains, buses, cars, subways, ships, buildings, airports.

Unrelated to the article, however, of note, the Clinton Administration's plan for missile defense is based on a purposefully incomplete assessment of the threat of missile attack on American soil, and is a senseless policy of intentional vulnerability, while cutting funding for R & D and deployment to a subsistence level. While the Administration and the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Gen. Hugh Shelton rely on the Intelligence Community to provide the necessary warning of the development and deployment by a rogue state of an ICBM threat to the U.S., the Rumsfeld Commission pointed out in their recent report that "through unconventional, high-risk development programs and foreign assistance, rogue nations could acquire an ICBM capability in a short time and that the Intelligence Community may not detect it." We were obviously underwarned about India and Pakistan's nuclear testing capabilities. (Inhofe News Release and Heritage Foundation Executive Memo 543 attached.)

Also of note, China produced 6 new CSS-4 ICBMs in the first 4 months of this year and will produce 2 more before relocating its production plant, increasing its nuclear arsenal by one-third, according to Pentagon intelligence officials. All were targeting the United States. The Rumsfeld Commission report stated: "China also poses a threat to the United States "as a significant proliferator of ballistic missiles, weapons of mass destruction and enabling technologies," citing extensive transfers to Iran, Pakistan and Saudi Arabia. The report also assesses that China is unlikely to reduce its transfers of technologies and experts to nations seeking missiles.

We support the Heritage Foundation's Missile Defense Study Team (Team B) solutions for Congress in acquiring missile defense: Ignore the ABM Treaty, "legally it is dead". (Heritage Foundation Executive Memo No. 543.) Establish a policy for deploying a national missile defense system as soon as technologically possible. (Unfortunately, Senate bill defeated 9/9/98 by one vote.) "Upgrade the Navy's fleet of Aegis cruisers; cost \$3 billion, deployable the fiscal year 2002.

Follow up with deployment of space-based interceptors and space-based lasers." Stop the delay; we do not have 10 years.

Mr. Speaker, these observations are representative of the growing concerns held by

the many Americans paying attention to the topic of national security and terrorism.

Hearings held during the 105th Congress on the topics of ballistic missile defense and small-munitions terrorism have raised legitimate questions which must be resolved by this House. In pursuing such solutions, I commend Ms. Smith's comments to our colleagues. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

IN HONOR OF THE SEVENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE TWENTY-NINTH STREET UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

HON. GEORGE W. GEKAS

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 28, 1998

Mr. GEKAS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to bring to the attention of my colleagues a church in my congressional district, the Twenty-Ninth Street United Methodist Church in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. I am pleased to announce that this year the Twenty-Ninth Street Church celebrates the great achievement of its seventy-fifth anniversary.

The church was started as a Mission Church in 1924 by the Derry Street United Methodist Church. At its beginning, the Twenty-Ninth Street Church had sixty-nine members, one of whom remains an active participant today. Miss Elizabeth Ulrich attends services every Sunday as well as all of the church's social functions.

The year-long anniversary celebration began on February 15, 1998 with a talk by the Reverend G. Edgar Hertzler, the ninety-one year-old Pastor Emeritus of the church. Various activities including choral and social functions, combined worship services with Derry Street Church, and Hobby and Talent Night all build up to a message from Bishop Neil Irons who is slated to conclude the celebration on February 21, 1999. The Twenty-Ninth Street Church chose as its anniversary slogan, "1924—A Mission Church. 1999—A Church with a Mission." This slogan demonstrates the church's progress and development in the seventy-five years since its founding. It is evident to me that the members of the church recognize their strong ties to the past but also look ahead with a great eye to the future to ensure ongoing prosperity.

Let the record reflect that I am proud of the great accomplishments of the Twenty-Ninth Street United Methodist Church on its seventy-fifth anniversary, and that I believe the members of the church should also be proud of themselves. I wish the Twenty-Ninth Street Church continued success and good fortune.

HONORING TONY GALDI

HON. NYDIA M. VELÁZQUEZ

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 28, 1998

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I submitted the following for the RECORD. Thank you, Major General Sinn for your invitation. Today, more than 53 years after his heroic deed, we present the Bronze Star for valor, one of this Nation's highest military honors, to Mr. Tony Galdi.

Our community is proud of Tony, a dedicated family man whose religious faith has given him strength and courage throughout his life. He retired a number of years ago from his family's import business. His days are spent playing chess with friends and pursuing his love of art. Like many who grew up in Brooklyn, Tony still misses the Dodgers but he enjoys watching his new adopted team, the Mets. He is joined today by his wife Delores, their family and close friends. We welcome them all.

Tony's story spans decades and continents, but across these divides friendship and loyalty have endured and have brought us to this moment. In 1943, he was inducted into the Army, trained to be an armored gunner and stationed in Scotland. During the summer of 1944, Corporal Galdi was sent to mainland Europe as part of the thousands of troops who were involved in the Normandy invasion. He spent the summer fighting in the French campaign with General Patton's Third Army. By the year's end, he joined the Ninth Army and had crossed into Germany. It was in Germany that Tony bravely earned today's honor.

It has been said that the ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stand during times of challenge. On a cold January day in 1945, Corporal Galdi stood poised on the edge of such a challenge and summoned all his mettle and his courage.

Two of Tony's comrades, First Sergeant Jim Hill and Corporal Louis Cristini, went into a mine field to recover a rifle dropped by a soldier killed in action. Minutes after entering the area one of the men triggered a mine, causing a massive explosion. Through the mist and smoke, Corporal Galdi could see that, while both men were still alive, Sergeant Hill's leg had been shattered by the explosion.

On that day in January, Corporal Galdi was alone, from family and home. He had to be scared; his friends were injured and dying. But he vanquished his fear and forged on, not for glory but for a cause larger than himself—the lives of his friends.

In the midst of this bloody chaos, Corporal Galdi took charge and bravely entered the mine field. Taking his life into his own hands, he sprinted 75 yards across a snow covered field that made detection of the mines impossible. He knew that with each step could lie the same fate as Sergeant Hill's or worse—death.

Upon reaching his friends, it was clear that Sergeant Hill was in dire straights. With the assistance of Corporal Cristini, they carried him back to the jeep and rushed him to the nearest field hospital. Sadly, Sergeant Hill died.

Because of who he is, Mr. Galdi never thought to tell this story and no one else thought to report it leaving this heroic act unrewarded. It was not until 1980, after the encouragement of his daughter, that he came forward.

Account after account by the men who served with Corporal Galdi praised his bravery. Sharp Stafford, Staff Sergeant for the battalion, upon recalling Tony's act years later called his deed "an act of heroism." On that day in January, no one doubted that Corporal Galdi deserved one of this nation's highest recognitions. We may all wonder why this has

taken so long, but we do know why he is here today—because his friends never forgot what he did for one of their own.

On that mine field so many years ago, Tony Galdi performed a truly heroic deed and asked nothing in return. At long last, it is time to honor his unselfish act of bravery.

Mr. Galdi, on behalf of all Americans, we thank you for your service, for your courage, for your determination and for your loyalty to your fellow soldiers and country. We are all proud to call you an American. And I am proud to see you receive the Bronze Star for valor.

IN HONOR OF THIRD FEDERAL SAVINGS

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 28, 1998

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I would like to extend my best wishes to the Third Federal Savings in celebrating 60 years of service to the city of Cleveland and its surrounding area. Since 1938, Third Federal has provided its customers with the best rates, service and value available.

Because they wanted to help their neighbors save money and purchase homes, Ben S. Stefanski and his wife and partner, Gerome, envisioned an opportunity to charter a savings and loan institution designed to provide the community with safe and stable financing for anyone who wanted to own a home. Third Federal grew quickly in the post-war years, earning a solid reputation as a "good investment" that allowed for its expansion. In 1958, it took its first steps toward that goal by merging with Lincoln Heights Savings and then quickly added eight other offices and assets totaling \$150 million.

Such phenomenal growth could not have happened without Third Federal's commitment to its key principals. This institution has thrived on the values of personal respect, responsibility and trust. Because of the bank's strong sense of history, tradition of hard work, and its pursuit of a clearly defined business goals, it continually provides outstanding financial services to its customers.

Today, Third Federal Savings issues more home mortgages than any other lending institution in Northeast Ohio and has acquired assets exceeding \$5.6 billion. It is an organization that is built on personal service, stability and sound financial management. It is continuing to enjoy solid growth by controlling costs and constantly searching for ways to improve service.

My fellow colleagues, please join me in celebrating the 60th anniversary of this outstanding lending institution. Third Federal Savings has accomplished great success by following a simple vision: to help its neighbors to save money and purchase homes in Northeast Ohio. This vision has stood the test of time to guide Third Federal in its journey to present success now and will continue to do so in the future.

TO HONOR LOUIS FRANCO, SR.
FOR 50 YEARS OF CONTINUOUS
SERVICE TO THE LODI FIRE DE-
PARTMENT

HON. STEVE R. ROTHMAN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 28, 1998

Mr. ROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a man, Mr. Louis Franco, Sr., who has dedicated 50 years of his life to the Lodi, New Jersey Fire Department. This gentleman has tirelessly given to his community in serving the residents of Lodi, New Jersey. Mr. Franco began volunteering with Hose Company #2 as a young man. Year after year, he continued to serve the community of Lodi as a fireman. Such nobility, such commitment, such dedication, should be recognized and applauded at the highest levels. On behalf of the residents of Lodi, I commend Louis Franco, Sr. for his exemplary work.

Louis Franco, Sr. was born in Lodi on September 9, 1926. At the age of 22, Louis joined the Lodi Volunteer Fire Department. He has held many honorable positions during his 50 years of service. With time, his leadership evolved and he was elected to the offices of Lieutenant and Captain of Hose Company #2. Louis became Fire Chief in 1967, and he twice held the office of President. For the past thirty years, Louis has also been President of the Lodi Fireman's Relief Association. Additionally, he has been a lifetime member of the following organizations: the New Jersey State Fireman's Association, the New Jersey State Exempt Fireman's Association, the South Bergen Fire Chief's Mutual Aid Association, along with the New Jersey and New York Fireman's Association. He also holds a membership in the New Jersey State Fire Chief's Association and the Passaic-Bergen Firemen's League.

Louis has been married for 45 years to his lovely wife, Marie. He is also the proud father of three children: Emilia Franco-Duffy of Fair Lawn, Frank Salvatore of Virginia, and Louis Charles, a Lodi Police Officer. Louis and Marie are both proud grandparents to three grandchildren. Today, I also commend Louis for being a beloved husband, father, and grandfather.

I am proud to honor Mr. Louis Franco for his dedicated service to our community. Louis is a model citizen and I feel privileged to share these words about his steadfast dedication for 50 years in the Lodi Fire Department.

1998 ANNUAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 28, 1998

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, my colleagues, Mr. SHERMAN and Mr. WAXMAN rise today to pay tribute to our close friend, Georgia Mercer, who is receiving the 1998 Annual Achievement Award from Action Democrats. We can think of no one who consistently over the years has done more for her community than Georgia. She has been devoted to an extraordinary number of organizations and important causes. Her dedication and compassion serve as an inspiration to us all.

It would be impossible in this short space to list all of Georgia's accomplishments. She is one of those special people who make every day count. Her zest for life is contagious. She is filled with ideas, suggestions and plans for improving the world.

Georgia's career has taken her from teaching fourth grade in the Los Angeles Unified School District to serving as a member of the Board of Directors of Valley Presbyterian Hospital. However, there are two causes that have consumed the bulk of her attention: women's rights and the Jewish community.

She served for 16 years with Women For, a non-partisan organization supporting issues and candidates; was a founding member of the Board of Directors of the Women's Campaign Fund; and spent many years on the staff of Planned Parenthood. Her involvement with the Jewish community includes membership on several committees of the Jewish Federation Council of Los Angeles and Founding President of the Board of Trustees of the New Reform Congregation.

In the past few months, Georgia received a prestigious appointment to the Board of the Los Angeles Community Colleges. The Board could not have made a better choice. For more than three decades Georgia has demonstrated her unshakable commitment to quality public education. We have no doubt that she will be an exceptional Trustee.

We ask our colleagues to join us in saluting Georgia Mercer, who has built a remarkable career around the idea of helping others. We are proud and honored to be her friends.

IN RECOGNITION OF UNIQUE PUBLIC-PRIVATE COOPERATION

HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 28, 1998

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, I was privileged last December to join with Vice President Gore and the Massachusetts Senators in a unique celebration to recognize an outstanding public-private partnership between Targeted Marketing Solutions Incorporated (TMSI) of Newton Upper Falls, Massachusetts and the United States Postal Service. At this ceremony, TMSI and the Postal Service were presented with the National Performance Review's Hammer Award, which honors civil servants and private groups that have implemented innovative programs that improve government efficiency and save the government money.

As we finish our work this Congress and look ahead to the turn of the century, I wanted to share with my colleagues part of the story of this innovative relationship, which I think exemplifies extremely well the power and potential of public sector-private sector cooperation. Indeed, I am hopeful that this model will serve to inspire other agencies and private groups to explore innovative ways to increase consumer satisfaction, in an efficient manner.

In 1993, TMSI approached the Postal Service with a way to help the Postal Service further their goals of reducing costs, using sound business principles to increase efficiency, while increasing customer satisfaction. In order to facilitate the process by which millions of Americans fill out a change of address card

in order to get their mail forwarded when they move, TMSI proposed that they would print and distribute the Change of Address cards, making them more user-friendly, including moving tips and public service information. Moreover, their concept included the recruitment of move-related advertisers in order to reduce costs. The Mover's Guide was launched in 1994 nationally and is now saving the Postal Service millions of dollars in direct costs, as well as mail forwarding and increased postage costs each year.

This success was followed by the launch of the Welcome Kit in 1997, which is now sent to every mover at their new address to confirm change of address information, as well as public service information on motor vehicle registration, voter registration, federal moving related information, tips on settling in, and savings offers from move-related advertisers. Here again, this is all accomplished while saving taxpayers millions of dollars annually.

I was proud to take part last year in the celebration of this unique business relationship, including visiting TSMI's headquarters, and to witness the enthusiasm the people of TMSI and the Postal Service bring to their work in this area. I congratulate TMSI and the Postal Service on their innovation and determination. I hope, as I've said, that other individuals, companies, and agencies will be able to draw strength and inspiration from this success story. I look forward to learning of many similarly effective public-private alliances, which will no doubt be forged in the coming months and years ahead.

SALUTING HUNTERS AND ANGLERS ON THE 27TH ANNUAL NATIONAL HUNTING AND FISHING DAY

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 28, 1998

Mr. BOB SCHAFFER of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join in celebrating the 27th anniversary of the National Hunting & Fishing (NHF) Day. NHF Day is a nationwide tradition that introduces millions of Americans to outdoor sports. The theme for this year, "A Natural Invitation to Step Outside," was chosen to encourage all Americans to head outside and share the values and fun the outdoors offers. According to Chris Chaffin, NHF Day Director, "It is more important now than ever to introduce newcomers to hunting, shooting, fishing and other activities because those who participate in these outdoor sports gain a lifetime of enjoyment, embrace an American tradition and share the values of stewardship and resource conservation for our future."

President Nixon and Congress established NHF Day in 1971 to recognize generations of hunters and anglers for the time and money that they have contributed to wildlife conservation efforts. To date, this totals more than \$20 billion and uncounted hours of work on habitat improvement projects.

In fact, data from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service show hunters and anglers contributed nearly \$1 billion to wildlife conservation for 1997. These revenues, raised through license sales, support state wildlife agencies and their

conservation projects. This money is not general tax revenue, yet it benefits every American by promoting both a healthy environment and healthy wildlife. Moreover, these figures do not include the hundreds of millions of dollars raised through excise taxes on hunting and fishing equipment and donations to conservation organizations.

Of course, to hunters and anglers, this is nothing new. Over 100 years ago, they were the earliest and most vocal supporters of conservation and scientific wildlife management. They were the first to recognize that rapid development and the unregulated use of wildlife were seriously threatening the future of many species.

Led by President Theodore Roosevelt, these early conservationists called for the passage of the first laws to outlaw market hunting and provide funds to state wildlife agencies through sales of hunting and fishing licenses and taxes on sporting equipment. Hunters and anglers today provide more than 75% of the funding for these agencies. During the past century, sportsmen and sportswomen have worked countless hours to protect and improve millions of acres of vital wildlife habitat on lands available for the use and enjoyment of everyone.

In particular, I would like to highlight and praise the role of Colorado's hunters and anglers in wildlife conservation. According to 1997 figures, Colorado's sportsmen and sportswomen purchased over 1.4 million hunting and fishing licenses which generated almost \$60 million for the Colorado Division of Wildlife. Projects such as the Greenback trout recovery, Frying Pan River trout stocking, Beaver Creek cutthroat trout restoration, Native Aquatic Species Restoration Facility in San Luis Valley (a first in the nation), and \$300,000 for wetlands conservation in San Luis Valley, are all beneficiaries of these revenues.

In Colorado, as in the rest of the country, hunters and anglers, through license fees and excise taxes, have been the biggest single force behind the restoration of habitat and wildlife conservation. I, for one, would like to salute those hunters and anglers on this 27th observance of the National Hunting and Fishing Day.

IN HONOR OF DANIEL PENSIERO, JR.

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 28, 1998

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of Mr. Daniel Pensiero, Jr., a native of Cleveland, Ohio. Mr. Pensiero had a distinguished career in the food and travel industries. He was dedicated to his loving family and was involved in many community activities.

Daniel Pensiero, Jr. passed away on August 15, 1998 in Sun Valley, Idaho. Mr. Pensiero and his wife, Mildred, lived in Las Vegas, having moved from Chagrin Falls. He was born in Cleveland, Ohio. When he graduated from Baldwin-Wallace College in 1951, he went to work with his father, Daniel Webster, Sr., a food broker who owned the Carl Weber, Co. Mr. Pensiero became president of the com-

pany in 1971. After he merged it with another firm, it became Smith, Weber, & Swinton in 1986. He served as a chairman for 3 years. He then bought several travel agencies and merged them into the company A Ticket to Ride, which he operated for 8 years. At the time of his death, Mr. Pensiero was a consultant for Stanislaus Foods, a manufacturer of tomato products.

Mr. Pensiero studied classical music as a child and enjoyed playing the piano. He cooked meals for his friends and family and loved to travel. He was a good friend to many. In addition, he was very active in fund raising for local charities.

Mr. Pensiero is survived by his wife, Mildred, children Debbie, David and his wife Cynthia, Daniel III, Jeffery, and his brother Donald A. Pensiero, M.D. Daniel Pensiero, Jr. lived an admired and honorable life. I would like to extend my deepest sympathy and condolences to his family and friends. He will be greatly missed by all who knew him.

IN RECOGNITION OF OPPORTUNITY, INC.

HON. JOHN EDWARD PORTER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 28, 1998

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to rise today to recognize Opportunity, Inc., an outstanding organization located in Highland Park, IL. This is truly a remarkable enterprise and a magnificent example of the initiative needed to help people move from welfare to work and a better life.

Opportunity, Inc. is a unique, not-for-profit contract manufacturer that employs 150 persons, most of whom have developmental, physical and/or emotional disabilities. Founded in 1976 by local construction executive John Cornell, who still serves as an Emeritus member of the Board of Directors, the company will hold its annual Handicapable Leadership Award Dinner in Chicago on October 6th. The keynote speaker will be Ken Bode, PBS Senior Correspondent, moderator of Washington Week in Review and Dean of the Northwestern University Medill School of Journalism.

The company's mission is twofold: (1) to provide a mainstream plant environment in which handicapable people can work and earn a paycheck as well as the dignity that comes from being employed productively on a full-time basis; and (2) to provide its private sector customers with the best possible quality, price and service.

As everyone understands, budget constraints compel us to look for ways to effectively address important needs without government subsidies, and Opportunity, Inc. is leading the way in this regard. A model of community response and innovation, the company demonstrates how competitive and productive handicapable employees can be. Opportunity, Inc. built and continues to operate the nation's only not-for-profit, certified class 100,000 "clean rooms" for medical and surgical packaging.

When I visited Opportunity, Inc., however, I learned that its business success, while impressive, pales in significance to the positive contributions it has made to its employees' lives. I experienced firsthand how proud, dedicated and competitive they are. As one man

said to me, "Congressman, all we need is a fair chance to compete. That's what we get there at Opportunity and just look at the results!" Clearly, Opportunity, Inc. is an organization that lives up to its name.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to represent a congressional district that includes enterprises of this caliber. It is my pleasure to salute the employees, management and directors of Opportunity, Inc. on the occasion of their annual dinner, and to extend my personal congratulations to Raymond J. Geraci, Mayor of Highland Park, Illinois, who is the recipient of this year's Handicapable Leadership Award for 20 years of service.

THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FRAMINGHAM HEART STUDY

HON. EDWARD J. MARKEY

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 28, 1998

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following address.

Good afternoon, everyone. Thank you for inviting me to this historic celebration—the commemoration of a 50 year milestone in the advancement of public health in the United States. No other community in America has ever contributed as much to the health of all Americans as the town of Framingham—a veritable medical mecca. We are here today to honor you and the gift of life you have given to our country.

I am pleased to be among so many friends and so many experts in the fields of medicine and research. Framingham is blessed with the very best State House delegation in Massachusetts—State Senator Dave Magnani, and State Representatives John Stefanini and John Stasik. And what a great local government—represented today by Chairman of the Board of Selectmen Chris Petrini. Our Master of Ceremonies, Dr. Timothy Johnson, a modern day Marcus Welby—he's on ABC now, but he was dispensing his outstanding medical advice to all of us in Boston long before he made it really big—right here on Channel 5.

Jay Lander and the many other study participants and their families whom we congratulate and thank today.

The guardians of the Framingham Study—Doctors William Castelli, Aram Chobanian, and Daniel Levy. One of the federal government's top health experts, Dr. Claude Lenfant, Director of the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute at NIH.

And to this distinguished public health pantheon we welcome a world leader, America's Doctor, the Surgeon General of all of these United States, the Pied Piper of Prevention, Dr. David Satcher. There is no kinder, wiser, more conscientious or creative caregiver in the land, and we are grateful for, and honored by his presence and his willingness to devote his great talents to helping all of America's people lead healthier and more productive lives.

As I was preparing for today's event, it occurred to me that the willingness of the people of Framingham to volunteer for this monumentally important civic cause has proven to be as critical to the promotion of our nation's health as the Minutemen of Middlesex County were to the promotion of our democracy. It is extraordinary to think in 1948, in a town of only 28,000 people, nearly one out of five residents stepped forward to answer the call for participation in this long-term affair of the heart. They devoted their

lives to a revolutionary undertaking, demonstrating the same deeply felt spirit of voluntarism as their forebearers who took up their flintlocks to beat back King George III.

When the history of Western Medicine is written, every one of those first 5,000 volunteers, and every one of the subsequent wave of 5,000 offspring and spouse volunteers, and every one of the more than five hundred Omni Study volunteers, will be listed in the history books under the heading of "Public Health Patriots." Because for the past 50 years, you have opened your lives to save all of ours.

Make no mistake about it, the Framingham Heart Study has been revolutionary—changing the way our entire country thinks about medicine and revolutionizing our understanding of heart disease. Framingham has set the standard for the very best in medical research, bridging the gap between science and advocacy. It has made history as one of the first major health studies to include women who had long been neglected in the halls of public policy, in research studies, and in clinical practice. Fully 55 percent of the original cohort and 52 percent of the second generation "Offspring Study" were women. This fact is significant because heart disease was long believed to be only a man's disease—but thanks to Framingham we know that it is in fact the #1 killer of American women, that the symptom presentation may be different in women than men, and that there are important steps that both women and men can take to protect themselves from the dangers of cardiovascular disease.

Research is medicine's "field of dreams" from which we harvest new findings about the causes, treatments, and prevention of disease. And we have harvested a great deal of knowledge about heart disease from our national investment in the Framingham Heart Study. In 1948, the United States Public Health Service wanted to know why the rates of heart disease were rising in America. Since then, the Study has been answering that question, and for the first time in history identified risk factors for heart disease. The federal government's total contribution to the Framingham Study has been just \$43 million dollars—but that \$43 million dollars has produced 50 years of data and over 1,000 scientific papers—the Holy Book for Healthy Hearts. I believe this is one of the best investments our government has ever made, because it has paid life-saving dividends: Since the time the study began, the death rate from heart disease has declined by 50 percent.

Perhaps the most long-lasting contribution of the Framingham Heart Study will be the way in which it turned the attention of medicine inexorably towards prevention as a strategy for reducing the ravages of disease and for improving the quality and quantity of our lives. Framingham has given us a public health model that extends well beyond the heart and challenges the mind as well. You see, we are finally waking up to the fact that only through lifestyle and behavioral changes will Americans achieve optimal health.

That is because at the turn of this century, in the year 1900, the average life expectancy in the United States was 48 years of age for women and 46 years for men. Americans died of infectious diseases, and for women, also from complications of childbirth. So, from the dawn of time to the year 1900, we had added just a few years to the lives of Americans. However, for a person born today, the average life expectancy is 79 years of age for women and 72 years for men. Over the last 98 years, through government sponsored public health interventions including better sanitation, immunization, and advances from our

federal investment in medical research, we have added thirty bonus years to the lives of Americans.

Today, the major killers of people in the United States are chronic diseases—including heart disease, cancer, stroke, chronic lung disease and diabetes, for which over 50 percent of the cause are behavioral and lifestyle factors—smoking, poor diet, lack of physical activity, alcohol and illicit drug abuse, unsafe sexual practices, and not wearing a seatbelt.

As a result of the extraordinarily well-designed Framingham Heart Study, our nation learned about risk factors and adopted the prevention message that the Framingham Study put on the map. Healthy diet and exercise will help prevent heart disease, high blood pressure, diabetes, and some types of cancer. Conversely, cigarette smoking is the #1 preventable cause of death in America. It not only causes lung cancer and chronic lung disease, but it is a leading contributor to heart disease as well. Yet 1 in 4 Americans smokes, 1 in 3 high school seniors smoke, and one-third of them will die of their addiction. Furthermore, there is a growing epidemic of obesity and sedentary lifestyles in America.

But today we spend only one percent of a 1 trillion dollar health budget on prevention. I believe it is time to put prevention on the front burner of our nation's health care agenda where it belongs. Because more than any miracle drug we could discover, changing health-damaging behaviors and eliminating environmental health hazards could decrease premature death in America by one half, chronic disability by two-thirds, not to mention dramatically cut health care costs.

As we enter the 21st Century and adapt the Framingham Study to help us better understand all of the diseases that affect us today and into the future—diseases like Alzheimer's disease, diabetes, cancer, and the genetics of many other illnesses—the work of Framingham's Public Health Patriots will go on and on, and the rest of us will have even more reason to praise all of the volunteers gathered here this afternoon and the thousands of others who are with us in spirit.

In closing, I'd like to share an ancient proverb: "He, let's also make that she—who has health has hope. And he who has hope has everything." That's what this landmark Framingham Heart Study and your important contributions are all about—providing hope for a healthier future for the citizens of Framingham, of Massachusetts and for all Americans.

I am proud to represent you, I salute you, and I thank you with all of my heart for opening your lives to science to save our lives and the lives of generations of Americans to come.

TRIBUTE TO COLONEL DENNIS K. OBERHELMAN

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 28, 1998

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, let me take this opportunity to pay tribute to Marine Corps Colonel Dennis K. Oberhelman, who is retiring from the military after 28 years of exceptional service to our nation.

From 1996 to 1998, Col. Oberhelman served as Commanding Officer, Marine Corps Support Activity, Kansas City, Missouri. During this period of time, his leadership, innovative concepts, and farsighted planning were manifested in the overall effectiveness of Support

Activity. He demonstrated outstanding skills in directing a quite diverse organization, from the command staff to the Marine Corps Regional Contracting Office, Family Services Center, and Housing Office. Col. Oberhelman ran a highly cohesive staff with a single focus on providing the best possible support to all Kansas City area military personnel as well as families living at Richards-Gebaur.

Col. Oberhelman has been at the forefront of every major military-related challenge in the Kansas City area. He helped to devise a five year plan for Richards-Gebaur, and worked toward bringing 300 additional Marines to the former Air Force facility. In addition, he worked toward the establishment of a TRICARE Prime Site there.

Col. Oberhelman has fostered good will within the Kansas City community, and he has developed a close working relationship with civic leaders and organizations. I am certain that Members of the House will join me in paying tribute to this outstanding American as he retires from active duty.

ADJUSTMENTS OF STATUS OF BANGLADESH NATIONALS, H.R. 4652

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 28, 1998

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise to introduce H.R. 4652, a bill to provide for the adjustment of status of certain nationals of Bangladesh who have resided in the U.S. for over a decade. Despite attempts at promoting democracy and pluralism in Bangladesh, nearly half of that nation's population still lives below the poverty line. Per capita income is approximately \$260 dollars per year making Bangladesh one of the poorest nations in the world.

The Monsoon's of 1998 have magnified Bangladesh's problems making it ever more difficult for the people of that nation to distribute the scarce resources available. With 830 people per square kilometer, Bangladesh is one of the world's most densely populated places. In 1992, nearly 2/3 of Bangladesh is one of the world's most densely populated places. In 1992, nearly 2/3 of Bangladeshi children suffered from severe malnutrition. The picture in Bangladesh remains exceedingly bleak.

The recent nuclear threats emanating from Bangladesh's larger neighbors have placed further burdens on a nation which has traveled so far in its quest for democracy yet remains precariously perched in a very dangerous neighborhood. Our colleagues should applaud Bangladesh for its efforts to reduce the problems associated with child labor over the last several years. We must, however, do more. We must do something vital and tangible to demonstrate our commitment to help a limited number of Bangladeshi people who have lived in this country for at least a decade, contributed to American society and in many cases, raised their American children.

The perils of living in poverty and climatic devastation in Bangladesh has forced some of these people to follow the same route of our own ancestors and seek refuge in the United States. Some of these people are suspended

in a statute of permanent illegality, entangled in a labyrinth of changing, complex immigration laws. These people are not on our welfare rolls and will not become wards of the state. They are good, hard working people with whom I have been proud to associate myself.

Mr. Speaker, let us do what is right, let us do what is just and let us do what is humane. Let us respect that role that immigrants have played in the cultural mosaic that is our United States. Accordingly, I invite my colleagues to join me in supporting this limited action to legalize those who truly are deserving of permanent residency in this great nation.

Mr. Speaker, I request that a copy of the bill be inserted into the RECORD following my remarks.

A bill to provide for adjustment of status for certain nationals of Bangladesh.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

This Act may be cited as the "Bangladeshi Adjustment Act".

SEC. 2. ADJUSTMENT OF STATUS FOR CERTAIN NATIONALS OF BANGLADESH.

(a) ADJUSTMENT OF STATUS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The status of any alien described in subsection (b) shall be adjusted by the Attorney General to that of an alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence, if the alien—

(A) applies for such adjustment before July 1, 2000; and

(B) is otherwise admissible to the United States for permanent residence, except in determining such admissibility the grounds for inadmissibility specified in paragraphs (4), (5), (6)(A), (7)(A), and (9)(B) of section 212(a) of the Immigration and Nationality Act shall not apply.

(2) RELATIONSHIP OF APPLICATION TO CERTAIN ORDER.—An alien present in the United States who has been ordered excluded, deported, removed, or ordered to deport voluntarily from the United States under any provision of the Immigration and Nationality Act may, notwithstanding such order, apply for adjustment of status under paragraph (1). Such an alien may not be required, as a condition of submitting or granting such application, to file a separate motion to reopen, reconsider, or vacate such order. If the Attorney General grants the application, the Attorney General shall cancel the order. If the Attorney General renders a final administrative decision to deny the application, the order shall be effective and enforceable to the same extent as if the application had not been made.

(b) ALIENS ELIGIBLE FOR ADJUSTMENT OF STATUS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The benefits provided by subsection (a) shall apply to any alien who is a national of Bangladesh and who has been physically present in the United States for a continuous period, beginning not earlier than the date the application for adjustment under such subsection is filed, except an alien shall not be considered to have failed to maintain continuous physical presence by reason of an absence, or absences, from the United States for any periods in the aggregate not exceeding 180 days.

(2) PROOF OF COMMENCEMENT OF CONTINUOUS PRESENCE.—For purposes of establishing that the period of continuous physical presence referred to in paragraph (1) commenced not later than January 1, 1987, an alien—

(A) shall demonstrate that the alien, prior to January 1, 1987—

(i) performed service, or engaged in a trade or business, within the United States which is evidenced by records maintained by the Commissioner of Social Security; or

(ii) applied for any benefit under the Immigration and Nationality Act by means of an application establishing the alien's presence in the United States prior to January 1, 1987; or

(B) shall make such other demonstration of physical presence as the Attorney General may provide for by regulation.

(c) STAY OF REMOVAL; WORK AUTHORIZATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Attorney General shall provide by regulation for an alien subject to a final order of deportation or removal to seek a stay of such order based on the filing of an application under subsection (a).

(2) DURING CERTAIN PROCEEDINGS.—Notwithstanding any provision of the Immigration and Nationality Act, the Attorney General shall not order any alien to be removed from the United States, if the alien is in exclusion, deportation, or removal proceedings under any provision of such Act and has applied for adjustment of status under subsection (a), except where the Attorney General has rendered a final administrative determination to deny the application.

(3) WORK AUTHORIZATION.—The Attorney General may authorize an alien who has applied for adjustment of status under subsection (a) to engage in employment in the United States during the pendency of such application and may provide the alien with an "employment authorized" endorsement or other appropriate document signifying authorization of employment, except that if such application is pending for a period exceeding 180 days, and has not been denied, the Attorney General shall authorize such employment.

(d) ADJUSTMENT OF STATUS FOR SPOUSES AND CHILDREN.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The status of an alien shall be adjusted by the Attorney General to that of all alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence, if—

(A) the alien is a national of Bangladesh;

(B) the alien is the spouse, child, or unmarried son or daughter, of an alien whose status is adjusted to that of an alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence under subsection (a), except that in the case of such an unmarried son or daughter, the son or daughter shall be required to establish that they have been physically present in the United States for a continuous period, beginning not later than January 1, 1987, and ending not earlier than the date the application for adjustment under this subsection is filed;

(C) the alien applies for such adjustment and is physically present in the United States on the date the application is filed;

(D) the alien is otherwise admissible to the United States for permanent residence, except in determining such admissibility the grounds for exclusion specified in paragraphs (4), (5), (6)(A), (7)(A), and (9)(B) of section 212(a) of the Immigration and Nationality Act shall not apply; and

(E) applies for such adjustment before July 1, 2000.

(2) PROOF OF CONTINUOUS PRESENCE.—For purposes of establishing the period of continuous physical presence referred to in paragraph (1)(B), and alien—

(A) shall demonstrate that such period commenced not later than January 1, 1987, in a manner consistent with submission (b)(2); and

(B) shall not be considered to have failed to maintain continuous physical presence by reason of an absence, or absences, from the United States for any period in the aggregate not exceeding 180 days.

(e) AVAILABILITY OF ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW.—The Attorney General shall provide to applicants for adjustment of status under subsection (a) the same right to, and procedures for, administrative review as are provided to—

(1) applicants for adjustment of status under section 245 of the Immigration and Nationality Act; or

(2) aliens subject to removal proceedings under section 240 of such Act.

(f) LIMITATION ON JUDICIAL REVIEW.—A determination by the Attorney General as to whether the status of any alien should be adjusted under this section is final and shall not be subject to review by any court.

(g) APPLICATION OF IMMIGRATION AND NATIONALITY ACT PROVISIONS.—Except as otherwise specifically provided in this section, the definitions continued in the Immigration and Nationality Act shall apply in the administration of this section. Nothing contained in this section shall be held to repeal, amend, alter, modify, affect, or restrict the powers, duties, functions, or authority of the Attorney General in the administration and enforcement of such Act or any other law relating to immigration, nationality, or naturalization. The fact that an alien may be eligible to be granted the status of having been lawfully admitted for permanent residence under this section shall not preclude the alien from seeking such status under any other provision of law for which the alien may be eligible.

WORKFORCE IMPROVEMENT AND PROTECTION ACT OF 1998

SPEECH OF

HON. LOUIS STOKES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 24, 1998

Mr. STOKES. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong opposition to the "Workforce Improvement and Protection Act of 1998," H.R. 3736, which is designed to increase the number of H-1B visas. This bill is especially detrimental to American workers in the computer programming, engineering and other skilled worker fields. This negative jobs bill takes critical jobs out of the hands of American workers and compromises the economic stability of American families.

High-tech companies complain they cannot find the numbers of technologically skilled employees that they need among the United States workforce. Yet, reports abound about widespread abuses where U.S. workers, in the information technology industry, have been laid off and replaced by nonimmigrant workers. These high-tech companies would rather bring in H-1B workers than invest in the American workforce.

While it is true that our Nation's workforce is experiencing critical skills gaps, the answer is not to take jobs out of the hands of our existing and future American work forces. Nor is it to ignore the fact that many of the 6.2 million—or 4.5 percent of the U.S. population—who remain unemployed need critical opportunities for job training and education. We cannot afford to abandon that segment of our population for short-sighted profit-making motives that put our Nation's long-term economic security at risk.

Mr. Speaker, we already know how this ends. Just consider what happened to our Nation's economy when we handed over our industrial-based jobs to the cheaper labor-force overseas. Many of our cities are still struggling to overcome the impact of that action.

While I am very concerned about ensuring that our Nation's high-tech industries have the

most qualified workforce available in our labor market, I do not believe that simply raising the cap on H-1Bs will effectively address the long-term problem of the perceived labor shortage.

We must work together to increase U.S. enrollments in computer science and engineering programs. We must work together to ensure continuing education and training for U.S. workers as well as sustained efforts to prepare unskilled labor to compete in the technologically advanced workforce. And, we must work together to provide our Nation's current workforce with employment protections to ensure that they are not displaced by cheaper foreign workers. These are the components of a serious long-term strategy to address workforce shortages.

It is for these reasons that I urge my colleagues to join me in opposing H.R. 3736.

TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE VIC FAZIO

SPEECH OF

HON. ROBERT T. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 24, 1998

Mr. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to rise before my colleagues today in support of this legislation that will help pay tribute to one of the most esteemed Members in this House. Contained in this legislation is a provision that will rename the Yolo Basin Wetlands in Yolo, CA in honor of Congressman VIC FAZIO.

Congressman FAZIO recognized the potential value of this area as a wetlands habitat long ago and has since played a significant role in turning what was once a dream into reality. The Wetlands represents the largest public/private restoration project in the West at more than 3,600 acres. The Yolo Basin Wetlands occupies a central location on the Pacific flyway and will benefit migratory and resident ducks, geese, swans, shorebirds, raptors and songbirds.

For more than a decade, VIC has worked tirelessly to guarantee the design and construction of the wetlands area. He has been involved every step of the way, making certain the project meets Army Corps of Engineers construction criteria and has remained the key figure in securing the federal funds needed for the Corps to build the project.

The gentleman from California is the first to recognize that the Yolo Basin Wetlands project truly is a cooperative venture—combining the efforts of local, State and Federal agencies as well as elected officials and private sector entities. In all, VIC FAZIO has become the centerpiece of more than 20 individual and agency partners involved in completing this effort.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank the conferees for their support of this provision and particularly appreciate the efforts of Chairman MCDADE to ensure that this language was included in the bill. As we say goodbye to one of the most beloved and well-respected Members of this governing body, I think it is important to remember the acts of dedication and generosity that define his career. I can think of no better way to recognize the more than 20 years of faithful public service my good friend from California has given to his community

and his country than by renaming this beautiful wildlife area in his honor.

H. RES. 557 ON HOLOCAUST-ERA ASSETS AND THE FORTHCOMING WASHINGTON CONFERENCE ON HOLOCAUST ASSETS

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 28, 1998

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call the attention of my colleagues to House Resolution 557, which expresses support for U.S. government efforts to identify Holocaust-era assets and urging the restitution of individual and communal property. I introduced this resolution earlier today with my dear friend and our distinguished colleague, the Chairman of the International Relations Committee, Congressman BENJAMIN A. GILMAN.

Mr. Speaker, this resolution is a direct result of discussions which took place during a hearing of the International Relations Committee just during the first week of August. Stuart Eizenstat, our Undersecretary of State for Economic Affairs, testified before the Committee regarding the status of Holocaust restitution activities. During that hearing, he told our Committee that a resolution supporting the efforts of the Administration in its restitution activities and urging positive response from European governments would be helpful and positive action.

I want to call to the attention of our colleagues, Mr. Speaker, my profound respect and great admiration for the outstanding job that Mr. Eizenstat has done in dealing with issues related to Holocaust Restitution. Under his leadership, with the unswerving support of our exceptional Secretary of State, Madeleine Albright, the United States has set the example for other countries with the issue of Holocaust restitution.

In early December, Mr. Speaker, the United States will host the Washington Conference on Holocaust-era Assets, and this resolution emphasizes the importance of this conference in bringing about a resolution of matters related to restitution.

Mr. Speaker, a number of our distinguished colleagues are original cosponsors of this important resolution. In addition to the distinguished Chairman of the International Relations Committee, Mr. GILMAN of New York, the resolution has been cosponsored by the ranking Democratic member of the International Relations Committee, Mr. HAMILTON, and Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mrs. MALONEY of New York, Ms. WOOLSEY, Mr. FRANKS of New Jersey, Mr. ACKERMAN, Mr. BERMAN, Mr. BROWN of Ohio, Mr. BURTON, Mr. CHABOT, Mr. DEUTSCH, Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA, Mr. FOLEY, Mr. FOX, Mr. FROST, Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Mr. HORN, Mrs. LOWEY, Mr. MENENDEZ, Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. SHERMAN, Mr. SISISKY, Mr. WAXMAN, and Mr. WEXLER.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join us as cosponsors of this important resolution. I ask that the text of the resolution be included in the RECORD.

H. RES. 557

Expressing support of U.S. government efforts to identify Holocaust-era assets, urging

the restitution of individual and communal property, and for other purposes.

Whereas the Holocaust was one of the most tragic and complex horrors in this century, and survivors of that catastrophe are now reaching the end of their lives;

Whereas among the many atrocities committed by the Nazis was their systematic effort to confiscate property illegally and wrongfully from individuals, institutions, and communities solely because of religion or ethnicity;

Whereas the Nazi regime used foreign financial institutions to launder and hold property illegally confiscated from Holocaust victims, and some foreign financial institutions violated their fiduciary duty to their customers by converting to their own use financial assets belonging to Holocaust victims and denying heirs of these victims access to these assets through restrictive regulations and unreasonable interpretation of those regulations;

Whereas in the post-Communist period of transition many of the countries of Central and Eastern Europe have begun to enact legal procedures for the restitution of property confiscated or stolen from victims of the Holocaust to communities and to individual survivors of the Holocaust and their heirs;

Whereas, despite the enactment of legislation and the establishment of institutions to restore confiscated property in a number of countries, progress has been slow, difficult, and painful, and some countries have established restrictions which require those whose properties have been wrongfully plundered to reside in or be a current citizen of the country from which they now seek restitution or compensation;

Whereas the Tripartite Gold Commission has now concluded its activities, and under the leadership of the United States established an international Nazi Persecutees' Relief Fund, reached agreement with most of the countries which had gold on deposit with the Tripartite Gold Commission to donate their shares to this Persecutees' Fund, and the United States has pledged to contribute \$25 million to this Fund;

Whereas two significant agreements have recently been reached, the first between Holocaust survivors and private Swiss banks and the second between Holocaust survivors and European insurance companies, which represent significant first steps in the international effort to provide belated justice to survivors and victims of the Holocaust and their heirs;

Whereas the Department of State and the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum will co-host the Washington Conference on Holocaust-Era Assets later this year in order to review current efforts, share research across national borders, renew efforts to open Nazi-era archives, and spur greater progress on the restitution of Holocaust-era assets; and

Whereas there is a growing international consensus and sense of urgency that, after a half century of indifference and inaction, justice must be obtained for victims and survivors of the Holocaust and their heirs; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved That the House of Representatives—

(1) recognizes the great responsibility which the United States has to Holocaust survivors and their families, many of whom are American citizens, to continue to treat the issue of Holocaust-era assets as a high priority and to encourage other governments to do the same;

(2) commends the agencies of the United States government for their untiring efforts and for the example they have set, including the publication of the May 1997 and June 1998

reports on U.S. and Allied Efforts to Recover or Restore Gold and Other Assets Stolen or Hidden by Germany in World War II and the efforts to return such assets to their rightful owners;

(3) commends those organizations which have played a critical role in the effort to assure compensation and/or restitution for survivors of the Holocaust, and in particular to the World Jewish Congress and the World Jewish Restitution Organization;

(4) welcomes the convening of the Washington Conference on Holocaust-Era Assets later this year by the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum and the Department of State and expresses the hope that this conference will contribute to the sharing of information and will spur greater progress on the restitution of Holocaust-era assets;

(5) commends those countries which have instituted procedures for the restitution of individual and communal property confiscated from Holocaust victims, and urges those governments which have not established such procedures to adopt fair and transparent legislation and regulations necessary for such restitution;

(6) calls upon countries in transition in Central and Eastern Europe to remove certain citizenship or residency prerequisites for individual survivors of the Holocaust seeking restitution of confiscated property;

(7) notes that former Communist countries which seek to become members of the North Atlantic Alliance and other international organizations must recognize that a part of the process of international integration involves the enactment of laws which safeguard and protect property rights that are similar to those in democratic countries which do not require artificial citizenship and residency requirements for restitution or compensation;

(8) commends those countries which have established significant commissions, such as the Presidential Advisory Commission on Holocaust Assets in the United States, to conduct research into matters relating to Holocaust-era assets, to assure that information developed by these commissions is publicly available, to complete their major historical research efforts, and to contribute to the major funds established to benefit needy Holocaust survivors no later than December 31, 1999;

(9) commends those countries and organizations which have opened their archives and made public records and documents relating to the Nazi era, and urges all countries and organizations, including the United Nations, the Holy See, the International Committee of the Red Cross and national Red Cross organizations, to assure that all materials relating to that era are fully accessible to the public;

(10) urges all countries to develop and include as a part of their educational curriculum material on the Holocaust, the history of the Second World War, the evils of discrimination and persecution of racial, ethnic or religious minorities, and the consequences of the failure to respect human rights;

(11) appreciates the efforts of the government of Germany for successfully concluding an agreement with the Conference on Material Claims Against Germany on matters concerning restitution for Holocaust survivors from Central and Eastern Europe who have not yet received restitution, and urges the government of Germany to continue to negotiate with the Claims Conference to expand the eligibility criteria to ensure that all needy Holocaust survivors receive restitution;

(12) urges all countries to continue aggressive investigation and prosecution of individuals who may have been involved in Nazi-era war crimes, such as the Government of Ger-

many which should investigate Dr. Hans Joachim Sewering for war crimes of active euthanasia and crimes against humanity committed during World War II;

(13) urges countries, especially Israel, Russia, Poland, and other Central and East European nations, and organizations such as the International Committee of the Red Cross and Israel's Jewish Agency to coordinate efforts to help reunite family members separated during the Holocaust; and

(14) directs the Clerk of the House to transmit a copy of this resolution to the Secretary of State and requests that the Secretary transmit copies to all relevant parties.

RECIPROCAL TRADE AGREEMENT AUTHORITIES ACT OF 1997

SPEECH OF

HON. LANE EVANS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 25, 1998

Mr. EVANS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in opposition to granting fast track trade negotiating authority. I oppose this legislation because of the adverse effects that the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), which was negotiated under "fast track" authority, has had upon working American families.

There is no question that NAFTA's track record has had an adverse effect on U.S. wages. This country has lost over a quarter of a million jobs. In my home state of Illinois, 23 companies have moved to Mexico as a result of NAFTA. Instead of the old, failed "fast track", we need a trade negotiating authority that gives the President the tools to negotiate trade agreements that reflect the wishes of most Americans—fair, responsible trade that protects the environment, working families and public health.

We have much to lose with this vote. U.S. taxpayers have invested billions to establish and maintain one of the safest food supplies in the world. Yet we undermine consumer protection by allowing food to be imported from countries where health and safety standards either do not exist or are not enforced. Under NAFTA, food imports from Mexico and Canada have dramatically overburdened the Food and Drug Administration's ability to adequately inspect food imports. More and more we hear of illnesses caused from foreign foods. We need to make international bodies and foreign governments with weaker standards accountable if we are to protect the health of all Americans. Granting fast track authority will only threaten the safety of our food supply.

As a representative from the Corn Belt, I understand our farmers are struggling through tough times with commodity prices that are the lowest they've been in years. However, trade negotiations take years. Our farmers need immediate relief. We should be looking at ways to put money in their pockets where they most need it and ways to help our trading partners get back on their economic feet. Fast track is not the cure-all to the farm crisis, it is, at the moment, a distraction.

Without labor, food safety, and environmental provisions in the fast track legislation, we have no guarantee that these issues will ever be addressed. I am not willing to risk the health and safety of my constituents on an authority that cannot safeguard their well-being.

Lets fix the problems we have with unfair trade negotiations, lets not add to them. I urge all my colleagues to vote no on fast track.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ASA HUTCHINSON

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 28, 1998

Mr. HUTCHINSON. Mr. Speaker, during Roll Call Vote #466, I was unavoidably detained while engaged in Congressional duties. Had I been present, I would have voted Aye.

UNIFIED STRATEGY NEEDED TO FIGHT TERRORISM

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 28, 1998

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, the August 7 bombings outside U.S. embassies in Nairobi, Kenya, and Dar-es-Salaam, Tanzania, were the latest crimes to be added to a growing list of terrorists attacks where Americans died brutally, without warning, and unnecessarily. These bombings join a list which includes the World Trade Center in New York City, Khobar Towers in Saudi Arabia, and the Federal Building in Oklahoma City.

Our Nation did respond to the killing of 12 Americans and nearly 300 Kenyans and Tanzanians. Based on evidence that further attacks were planned, United States armed forces struck terrorist-related facilities in Afghanistan and Sudan, targeting one of the most active terrorist bases in the world and a factory involved in the production of materials for chemical weapons. Two suspects have been arrested and others are being pursued. But in this tragedy's aftermath, the U.S. must also learn from the incidents and take steps to ensure that our citizens and installations are protected in the future.

Since June of 1997, I have released four reports prepared by the General Accounting Office (GAO) detailing U.S. efforts to combat terrorism. The first report, entitled, "Combating Terrorism: Status of DOD Efforts to Protect its Forces Overseas," dealt with anti-terrorism. It concluded that uniform security standards were necessary to ensure the safety of Americans around the world.

In September of 1997, GAO released a second report entitled, "Combating Terrorism: Federal Agencies' Efforts to Implement National Security Policy and Strategy." This report focused on counter terrorism—those offensive measures for deterring, resolving, and managing terrorist acts. It outlined specific roles and responsibilities of the 40 Federal departments, agencies, and bureaus involved in counter terrorism, as well as their respective capabilities.

"Combating Terrorism: Spending on Governmentwide Programs Requires Better Management and Coordination" was released in December of 1997. This third GAO report focused on total government-wide spending levels to combat terrorism. While it revealed that a significant amount of resources—more than \$7 billion a year—were committed annually to

combat terrorism, there were some deficiencies, including the absence of regular government-wide priorities, and the lack of an assessment process to coordinate and focus government efforts. Moreover, the report found that no government office or entity maintained the authority to enforce coordination.

In its fourth report, "Combating Terrorism: Threat and Risk Assessments Can Help Prioritize and Target Program Investments," GAO reviewed the implementation of the 1996 Defense Against Weapons of Mass Destruction Act, popularly known as the Defense Department's Nunn-Lugar-Domenici program. It recommended the adoption of a formal threat and risk assessment process to enhance state and local capabilities and suggested that the FBI lead this effort.

These GAO reports marked the first attempt by any government agency to take a comprehensive look at federal activities to fight terrorism. While we learned a great deal from these reports, we still have a long way to go. As the work of the GAO has helped us discover, our approach may be fundamentally flawed: Too many different federal agencies and local governments possess existing or emerging capabilities for responding to a terrorist attack; there are uneven and nearly incompatible levels of expertise; and our efforts are complicated by duplication and poor communication. To put it simply, with so many agencies involved, the left hand may not know what the right hand is doing. We must have a unified strategy to fight terrorism—we cannot have agencies fighting turf battles.

There has been some movement in the right direction to respond to the threat of terrorism. In May, the Administration announced the formation of ten regional rapid assessment teams. These teams are part of the Defense Department's overall effort to support local, state, and federal civil authorities in the event of an incident involving the use of weapons of mass destruction. Congress has included money in the Fiscal Year 1999 DOD Authorized bill for this program, which is coordinated through the National Guard. The Missouri National Guard will play a leading role as host to one of the ten regional terrorism response teams.

The recent bombings are a terrible reminder that we must take the threat of terrorism seriously. We must realize that the struggle against terrorism will be protracted, and moreover, we must resist complacency—we must not too quickly forget the death and destruction that can be wreaked by fanatical extremists committed to waging war on the United States.

America has battled terrorism for many years. We have acted to bring terrorists to justice, to penetrate their organizations, to disrupt their plans, and to isolate their sponsors. Nevertheless, it is a virtual certainty that American citizens and American facilities will be attacked again, and not just in the traditional terrorist ways. To a distressing extent, the information and components necessary to build nuclear, chemical, or biological weapons of mass destruction are increasingly and readily accessible. In addition, the dependence of our military services and critical civilian infrastructures on information technology has made us vulnerable to information warfare. This vulnerability requires vigilance and the development of protective and redundant systems so that we can maintain our decisive technological edge.

If Congress and the Administration are willing to develop a unified strategy and commit adequate resources, we can prepare an effective defense against terrorism. First, we must give careful scrutiny to the United States counter-terrorism and anti-terrorism programs and policies. In addition, we must insist that our military, law enforcement, intelligence, and diplomatic forces are effectively arrayed, equipped, and trained, and that they are given the authority to take action against terrorists. Finally, we must ensure that both anti-terrorism and counter-terrorism efforts are comprehensive and efficient.

ENCOURAGING ATTENTION TO CONFERENCE ON ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTANTS

HON. JOHN E. ENSIGN

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 28, 1998

Mr. ENSIGN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to draw your attention to some important information that all members of Congress and governors will be receiving over the next couple of days. It relates to a critical environmental issue I have spoken about before—control of oxides of nitrogen (NO_x) emissions that threaten human health, agriculture and our natural environment.

Back in July, I told you about the RENO_x 1998 conference being held in my home State. The purpose of this conference was to examine the consequences of NO_x pollution and to recommend strategies for reducing the millions of tons of NO_x produced each year by diesel trucks and buses and power generation boilers and furnaces.

This week, The Gunnerman Foundation, the lead sponsor of RENO_x 1998, issued its report on the findings and recommendations of this international conference, which attracted some of the best minds from government, industry, academia and the scientific community to tackle the NO_x issue. Collectively, this group broadened our public knowledge of the NO_x issue and identified specific strategies for making meaningful reductions in this dangerous pollutant. I would encourage you to consider the group's recommendations. This information may serve very useful for us, as policy makers, to begin to address this environmental issue that affects everyone on this planet.

Rudolf Gunnerman, the Chairman of The Gunnerman Foundation whom I have spoken about before as an environmental technology pioneer, would like to work with Members of Congress to develop solutions that quickly and comprehensively address NO_x pollution. The urgency of this issue is obvious, because NO_x is a danger not only in the lower atmosphere but is a precursor to ozone depletion in the upper atmosphere. It is important to address this problem before there are serious consequences.

In that light, I hope that you will give this matter some serious thought and attention, so that we can begin to address this important issue after our fall recess.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, September 29, 1998, may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

SEPTEMBER 30

9:15 a.m.

Indian Affairs

Business meeting, to consider pending calendar business; to be followed by hearings on S. 2010, to provide for business development and trade promotion for Native Americans.

SR-485

OCTOBER 1

9:30 a.m.

Armed Services

To hold hearings on issues regarding plans for Department of Energy national security programs.

SR-222

Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold hearings on S. 2494, to enhance the ability of direct broadcast satellite and other multichannel video providers to compete effectively with cable television systems.

SR-253

Energy and Natural Resources

To hold hearings on the nominations of Eljay B. Bowron, of Michigan, to be Inspector General, Department of the Interior, and Rose Eilene Gottemoeller, of Virginia, to be Assistant Secretary for Non-Proliferation and National Security, and David Michaels, of New York, to be Assistant Secretary for Environment, Safety and Health, both of the Department of Energy.

SD-366

Judiciary

Business meeting, to consider pending calendar business.

SD-226

10:00 a.m.

Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine the United States response to international parental abduction issues.

SD-419

Select on Intelligence

Closed business meeting, to consider pending business.

SH-219

10:30 a.m.

Rules and Administration

To resume hearings in open and closed sessions to examine United States Capitol security issues.

SR-301

2:00 p.m.

Environment and Public Works

Clean Air, Wetlands, Private Property, and Nuclear Safety Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine the state of current scientific understanding regarding the effects of mercury pollution on humans, and the Environmental Protection Agency's progress toward developing a rule to address the problem of regional haze within National Park areas.

SD-406

Governmental Affairs

International Security, Proliferation and Federal Services Subcommittee

To hold oversight hearings to examine United States Postal Service activities.

SD-342

Conferees

Closed, on H.R. 3694, to authorize funds for fiscal year 1999 for intelligence and intelligence-related activities of the United States Government, the Community Management Account, and the Central Intelligence Agency Retirement and Disability System.

S-407, Capitol

2:30 p.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation

Business meeting, to consider pending calendar business.

SR-253

Energy and Natural Resources

Forests and Public Land Management Subcommittee

To hold hearings on S. 2513, to transfer administrative jurisdiction over certain Federal land located within or adjacent to Rogue River National Forest and to clarify the authority of the Bureau of Land Management to sell and exchange other Federal land in Oregon, S. 2413, to provide for the development of a management plan for the Woodland Lake Park tract in Apache-Sitgreaves National Forest in the State of Arizona reflecting the current use of the tract as a public park, and S. 2402, to direct the Secretary of Agriculture to convey certain lands in San Juan County, New Mexico, to San Juan College.

SD-366

3:00 p.m.

Judiciary

To hold hearings on pending nominations.

SD-226

OCTOBER 2

9:00 a.m.

Governmental Affairs

To hold hearings on the nominations of John U. Sepulveda, of New York, to be Deputy Director of the Office of Personnel Management, and Joseph Swerdzewski, of Colorado, to be General Counsel of the Federal Labor Relations Authority.

SD-342

9:30 a.m.

Environment and Public Works

Business meeting, to consider pending calendar business.

SD-406

Special on SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON THE YEAR 2000 TECHNOLOGY PROBLEM

To hold hearings to examine general government emergency preparedness.

SD-192

Joint Economic

To hold hearings on the employment-unemployment situation for September.

1334 Longworth Building

10:00 a.m.

Armed Services

To hold hearings on ballistic missile defense programs, policies, and related issues.

SH-216

Judiciary

Antitrust, Business Rights, and Competition Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine the status of international antitrust cooperation.

SD-226

2:00 p.m.

Foreign Relations

To hold hearings on the nomination of Frank E. Loy, of the District of Columbia, to be Under Secretary of State for Global Affairs.

SD-419

OCTOBER 6

9:30 a.m.

Energy and Natural Resources

Business meeting, to consider pending calendar business.

SD-366

Veterans' Affairs

To hold joint hearings with the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs on the legislative recommendations of the American Legion.

345 Cannon Building

OCTOBER 7

10:00 a.m.

Joint Economic

To hold hearings on proposals to stabilize the international economy.

311 Cannon Building

CANCELLATIONS

OCTOBER 1

2:30 p.m.

Select on Intelligence

To hold closed hearings on intelligence matters.

SH-219

POSTPONEMENTS

SEPTEMBER 29

11:00 a.m.

Foreign Relations

Closed briefing to discuss fiscal year 1998 emergency supplemental funding for anti-terrorism programs and embassy security.

S-116, Capitol

2:00 p.m.

Judiciary

To hold hearings on the implementation of the Radiation Exposure Compensation Act.

SD-226